Production of Cotton

2538. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise total production of cotton during the last three years in the country;

(b) the total quantum of export from Maharashtra in terms of percentage to the world; and

(c) the place where in largest quantity and best quality of cotton is produced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASAN GOUDA R. PATIL): (a) Production of cotton during the last three cotton years (October-September) is as under:

COTTON YEAR (October-September)	1999-2000	2000-01	2001 -02
PRODUCTION (In lakh bales of 170 kg. each)	156	140	158

Source: Cotton Advisory Board.

(b) During last three years cotton export from Maharashtra by the Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Grower's Marketing Federation Ltd. was nil. Export of cotton from India, during the last three years, was negligible (less than 0.5) in comparison to World trade.

(c) China is the largest producer of cotton in the World followed by USA and India. In India, largest quantity of cotton is produced in the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh. Quality of cotton is always seen with respect to the purposes for which it is required. Pima growth of USA, Giza growth of Egypt, DCH-32 & MCU-5 growths of India in the extra long staple category, S-6 & Buny/ Brahma growths of India and MIDD growth of West African Countries in the long staple category, LRA-5166 growth of India in medium staple category and Bengal deshi of India in the non-spinnable category are of good quality.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.